GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:822
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
DEATH OF LION IN GIR
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Rawat Shri Kamla Prasad;Shivanna Shri M;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman;Singh Shri Sugrib;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of lions were found dead in the Jasadhar and Rajkot ranges of Gir Sanctuary in Gujarat, taking the total number of dead lions to eight since August, 2005;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof:

(d) the role of villagers around parks/sanctuaries in the death of lions:

(e) whether the carcasses of a ten-year-old leopard and a python were also found near the dead lion in Jasadhar range in Gir sanctuary;

(f) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the action taken thereon;

(g) whether the Government compensates the affected villagers against the loss of livestock; and

(h) if so, the details thereof;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) As reported by Government of Gujarat, one lion was found dead in Jasadhar Range of Gir Sanctuary on 18.10.2005. The total number of lions that have died since August,2005 is twelve.

There is no Rajkot range in the Gir Sanctuary..

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. The enquiry indicated that the death of the lion was due to fight with panther.

(d) Out of the twelve lions died since August, 2005, two have reportedly died of poisoning by local people.

(e) & (f) The caracass of a panther was found near the dead body of the lion. No python was found dead nearby. The enquiry revealed the cause of death due to fight between lion and panther.

(g) & (h) Yes, Sir. Compensation is paid to the villagers for loss of livestock ranging from Rs.250/- for the loss of one sheep to Rs. 5000/- for the loss of one milch buffalo, as per Government of Guiarat Resolutions.